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EDITORIAL NOTES.

In this issue will be found an outline of the program for the annual meeting of the State Society, which will be held at the Hotel Vendome, San Jose, the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the third week in April—the 20th, 21st and 22nd. The Public Health Association will, as usual, meet on Monday, April 19th, and a program of unusual interest is promised, though, at the time of writing, the details are not ready for publication. It will be noted that there are some unusual and interesting features connected with this coming annual meeting of our Society. A special effort has been made by the Committee on Scientific Program (and much credit is due the Chairman of that Committee, Dr. Martin Fischer) to secure an elaborate and instructive scientific exhibit with a certain amount of time set aside for demonstrating and lecturing upon some of the more notable exhibits. This is quite a new thing with us (though it has been a feature of the A. M. A. meetings for the last few years) and it should prove both interesting and profitable in a high degree. The symposium plan, which was found so acceptable, in the last two years, is continued and will be found of great interest. All papers are to be strictly limited in length and the President, Dr. Beckett, announces that he will rigidly enforce the time limit on readers of papers and the discussers thereof. It is to be hoped that every County Medical Society will be well represented at this meeting; there is no physician in the State who would not be

helped and benefited by attending the meeting and participating in the work. And by just so much as he is helped, his patients are benefited and the community gains. Therefore, let every one of our members take heed for his time and to his affairs and make the greatest effort to attend this meeting. Let us have the biggest and best meeting on record.

The Rev. Mr. Worcester, rector of the Emmanuel Church, in Boston, has recently been in our State and has attracted a good deal of attention to what is now known as the "Emmanuel Movement." A number of medical journals have recently contained a good deal of matter anent this subject, pro and con. On January 25th, Mr. Worcester addressed a meeting of clergymen and physicians at the St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco, and on the night of the 26th he addressed a public meeting, in the same city, where the attendance as reported by the press, was between six and eight thousand. We have here "a condition and not a theory." The keynote of the "movement" as given by Mr. Worcester, is that no persons shall be treated by the clergy engaging in this endeavor unless said persons shall be under the charge of a physician who recommends that the treatment by the clergy be employed. In the *Journal A. M. A.* for January 23rd is a letter signed by Drs. Goldthwait, Mumford, Cabot and Pratt, of Boston, outlining the rules set down for carrying on the work and for the guidance of the clergy and the physicians. No person may be accepted for treatment at Emmanuel Church unless so recommended by his physician; if he applies and has no physician, he is referred to one for examination before his treatment will be undertaken by the ministers. That is all very well and as it should be. But there are ministers and ministers, just as there are doctors and doctors. The public mind is simple; when six to eight thousand people gather to listen to this new "gospel of health," the vast majority of them are not going to appreciate the facts as set forth; they are going to regard the preachment as a new cure for the particular thing which they happen to have—be it tuberculosis or a broken leg. Furthermore, while the clergy of Emmanuel Church, and of other duly authorized churches may abide by the rules placing their work under medical guidance, who is to prevent any unscrupulous minister (and, alas! there are some such) from starting an "Emmanuel movement" shop of his own? The good that may have been done or that may be done to-day is not criticized; the possibilities of another form of charlatanry must not be overlooked. There has always been a subtle relation between medical vagaries and the ministry; it is said on good authority that a very large percentage of the notorious quacks in the United States are broken down or unfrocked clergymen. Facts are facts and the elemental type of the average human mind is one of them that can not be ignored. Within a year we shall hear of more than one unauthorized "Emmanuel movement" shop.